OPPOSE LD 1966!

An Act to Improve Access to Community Solar Programs in the State

Dear Legislators,

On behalf of the undersigned, we urge you to oppose LD 1966, An Act to Improve Access to Community Solar Programs in the State.

At a time when affordability and energy and fuel prices are forefront in the minds of Maine people and businesses, **Section 6 of the majority report is projected to add $20+ million dollars in stranded costs to electricity bills for only 4 megawatts of new solar through a new above-market procurement.**

LD 1966 was completely amended multiple times in committee with too little attention paid to the actual costs of the program. There is already subscription capacity available in currently approved solar farms for low income customers. In addition, the Department of Energy Resources is already charged with developing a successor program for net energy billing based on legislation passed in 2025, in which the needs of low and medium income customers contemplated in LD 1966 could be considered and accommodated at a lower cost.

Sections 1 and 4 of LD 1966 are also likely to require unnecessary costs and cause customer confusion that could potentially be resolved without legislation. **Instead of adding millions of dollars in unnecessary stranded costs to customer electric bills, we urge the Legislature to instead contemplate the wiser use of limited dollars for purposes of benefiting low-income customers.**

Maine people and businesses cannot afford unnecessary additional costs on their electric bills. Please vote NO on LD 1966!

MAINE STATE CHAMBER of COMMERCE

MAINE FOREST PRODUCTS COUNCIL

CENTRAL MAINE POWER

VERSANT POWER

Industrial Energy Consumer Group

MAME MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION OF MAINE

HOSPITALITY MAINE